

# *Town of Hampton*



## TOWN OF HAMPTON BOARD OF SELECTMEN Minutes of July 28, 2008

PRESENT: William Lally, Chairman  
Richard Griffin, Vice Chairman  
James Workman  
Richard Nichols  
Richard Bateman  
Michael Schwotzer, Acting Town Manager  
Kristina Ostman, Administrative Assistant

Chairman Lally called the meeting to order at 7:00PM

### SALUTE TO THE FLAG

Chairman Lally introduced those in attendance.

### I. Public Comment Period

Fred Rice, 15 Heather Lane – Appointment question of the Trustees to the Trust Fund by the BOS to appoint. RSA Chapter 669:7 authorizes the appointment.

### II. Announcements and Community Calendar

Deputy Sawyer spoke about the United States Air Force “Tops in Blue” Band. Permission is requested to change the traffic pattern on Ocean Blvd. during the event which will be held at the Sea Shell Stage on Hampton Beach Saturday, August 16<sup>th</sup>. The change in traffic would take place on Ocean Blvd. between D and F Streets (the area right in front of the Casino and the Sea Shell Stage). The area would be blocked off from traffic and the cars would be re-routed to go down F Street onto Ashworth Ave (creating two-way traffic between the two streets) and back up D Street onto Ocean Blvd.

Mr. Bateman MOTIONED to authorize the change in traffic pattern during this event. Mr. Griffin SECONDED.

VOTE: UNANIMOUS FOR

Mr. Bateman spoke about Mr. Charles Burlington who passed away this month and about his career in Hampton as a DPW employee; Superintendent of Highways.

Town of Hampton  
Board of Selectmen  
July 28, 2008 Minutes

Mr. Griffin spoke about Maureen Buckley who is planning the Top and Blues would like to let the Board know that they are invited to attend the event and that there will be reserved seating for them.

Mr. Lally spoke about Recycling during the Seafood Festival and the recent meeting that was held with the Chamber of Commerce.

John Nyhan has agreed to be in charge of the recycling efforts for the event. They have created a three year plan to do recycling at the Seafood Festival, this year being the first year only plastic will be done and a large recycling tent with an information booth will be set up in the middle of the festival.

### III. Appointments

#### 1. Public Works Operation Manager – Departmental Update

Mr. Price, Operations Manager for the DPW

The department has been experiencing difficulties with the fire alarm system in the complex. They have been working with the current vendor to rectify the problems. Parts of the system in the Wastewater Treatment Plant have been corroded by the atmosphere and have been replaced.

They are not satisfied with the quality of work and response time of the current vendor consequently and they will be contracting with a new vendor in the near future.

Questions from the Board.

Mr. Nichols asked about the smoke testing on Kings Highway to determine illegal flow and asks that the next time Mr. Price comes in if he could create a plan of action to do this.

Mr. Price agreed to come up with a plan for next time.

Mr. Workman commented on the price of the asphalt and how it is impacting the DPW budget.

Mr. Price noted that he is still looking for a lower price.

Mr. Lally asked about the head works and the expense.

Mr. Price responded that a lot of the work has already been done and the rest is paid for by the budget from the state.

#### 2. Commander Ralph Fatello of the American Legion "Wounded Warriors Project"

Commander Fatello, American Legion Post 35 and Michael Taylor. Commander Fatello explained about the project which will occur on Friday, August 22, 2008 from 10-3 at 10<sup>th</sup> Street. The Wounded Warriors Project take wounded veterans from the war in Iraq on hiking trips, skiing trips or whatever they would like to do and this time the men want to go surfing. They will be serving hot dogs and will be collaborating with the local surf shops, the Police and Fire departments, the local lifeguards and the Navy Seals to make this event happen.

#### 3. Mary Louise Woolsey, Little River Road. Fire Station #2 Winnacunnet Road Facility.

Town of Hampton  
Board of Selectmen  
July 28, 2008 Minutes

Ms. Woolsey read a prepared statement to the Board of Selectmen which is attached to the minutes as a separate document.

Discussion by the Board

Mr. Griffin asked whether she was speaking for the Budget Committee and no, she was not, however, she intends to speak with the committee on this issue.

Mr. Griffin spoke about Stratham and their building of the station in that Town and Susan Conway who was the developer of that station and he noted that he asked her to come by and speak with Hampton's Town Manager and Fire Chief.

Mr. Nichols spoke about Lucy Cushman; and how cooperation was how the Stratham Station was built and keep going.

Mr. Workman stated that the Board will keep moving forward and that if the Budget Committee wishes to recommend the project that is their decision.

Mr. Lally spoke about how Chief Lipe and his work with an Architect. He also comments about the suggestion of the health and safety of the Fireman at the Winnacunnet Station being at risk. This statement is incorrect, maybe at the Ashworth Ave Station but not at the one on Winnacunnet Road.

Ms. Woolsey corrected herself and stated that the comment was about the Beach Station.

Mr. Lally spoke about money being appropriated and that the Town is not financially secure at this time.

Ms. Woolsey believes that specific figures on the building of the structure should be made public immediately.

Mr. Lally spoke about the RSA 32 and the responsibility of the Budget Committee under the RSA and that it is not to dissect the individual items line by line.

4. Fred Rice; 15 Heather Lane – Fire Station

Mr. Rice spoke about the economics of the building the station and the planning of it. Mr. Rice would like give some suggestions as he was a part of the building of the Police Station and the acquisition of the new Town Hall building.

Mr. Rice explained that he took exception to the comment of Mr. Lally that this town is hurting and shows proof that Hampton is actually much better of then other towns in Rockingham County.

Mr. Rice's discussion was on the income of the area, and the town's ranking within the state in respect to tax revenue. He also notes that Hampton's taxes include trash and sewage where no other towns in the county do. If that were to be taken out taxes would drop drastically. He is hoping that this information will dispel the fear tactics that have been tossed out by the budget committee and the Board of Selectmen.

Town of Hampton  
Board of Selectmen  
July 28, 2008 Minutes

Mr. Rice in speaking about the Fire Station and his concerns noted that to save money and conserve on space now, will eventually mean that more money will be spent later to fix the corrections.

Fire Chief gave a professional opinion on the needs of the Fire Department and his recommendations should be accepted as he is the qualified trained Fire Chief. Hampton should not be compared with any other towns, especially Stratham as they are much smaller than we are and have no beach. The cost will be what it will be. Get behind the project, take the Charrette and the Fire Chief's suggestions and go everywhere in town to support the project and educated the voters why they should vote for it.

Questions by the Board

Mr. Griffin explained that he is not promoting any developer, just promoting input about fire stations.

Mr. Bateman spoke about the information that Mr. Rice gave to the Board and thanked him for his service and time to the town.

Mr. Nichols spoke about his disagreement about the rosy outlook Mr. Rice portrays about the economy in Hampton. The tax rate at \$19.79, is an absolute tax rate and not an equalized tax rate; that the tax rates are operating at different levels and are like comparing apples to oranges. He commented on the selectmen's role and that they should listen to the professionals. The role of the Selectmen is to balances the wants and needs of the professionals and the tax payers.

Mr. Workman thanked Mr. Rice for his information and insight. He agrees that they must have confidence in the Fire Chief's suggestions and input.

Mr. Lally speaks about the matter of disagreeing with the figure that was given and he feels that it could be done cheaper. Also, the town is not in good shape, not dire, but not good. The Selectmen are paying for the bad times and past projects and decisions.

IV. Minutes – June 30, 2008 and July 14, 2008

Minutes June 30, 2008- no corrections

Mr. Nichols MOTIONED to accept of the minutes of June 30, 2008 as submitted. Mr. Griffin SECONDED.

VOTE: 4-0-1 (Workman)

Minutes July 14<sup>th</sup>, 2008- Board corrections: Vote of Abstentions on page 4 & 7 (Bateman)

Mr. Workman MOTIONED to accept of the minutes of July 14, 2008 as amended. Mr. Griffin SECONDED.

VOTE: UNANIMOUS FOR

V. Old Business

1. Town Manager's Report

Town of Hampton  
Board of Selectmen  
July 28, 2008 Minutes

- a. Two of our employees, Rob Coates and Dan Coughlin have successfully completed the National Safety Council 4-hour Flagger Training Course conducted by Primex.
- b. We have discovered approximately two cases of the 1889-1986 Hampton Vital Records and Genealogy (Volume 4 of the History of Hampton). How would the Board like to dispose of these items?

I understand that the Historical Society was selling these books for \$35 and retaining \$10 before the sales were withdrawn from them. Checking with the Historical Society, I was informed that perhaps a sale cost of \$10 to \$15 is appropriate for today's market conditions. Your advice is solicited.

Consensus on the price will be \$10.00 by the Board members.

Bicentennial Coins presentation- the coins have been framed and will be displayed upstairs at the Town Hall.

Recreation Department Update- The tennis courts at Tuck Field have begun to be rebuilt and the area is a Construction Zone until further notice.

2. Fire Chief Lipe – Revision to Fire Station #2 “Square Footage and Cost Proposal”

The Fire Chief is out of Town and will not be here this evening.

3. Other.

Mr. Workman asked about J Street and its outcome and the motorcycle noise; and inquiring about how the Police will be implementing and enforcing it.

Mr. Bateman spoke about a letter of complaint regarding Comcast and the channel switching and noted that the Board has no control over the cable company and can not do anything until the town's contract is up and they can begin to negotiate a new one.

General Board discussion on motorcycle noise and the noise ordinances in Hampton and other surrounding towns and the ways to enforce them.

VI. New Business

1. Appointment to the Trustees of the Trust Fund

- a. Election Results of the March Town vote on the candidates for the Trustees of the Trust Fund
- b. Letter from William A. Hartley requesting appointment to the Trustees of the Trust Fund
- c. Resume of Francis A. Quinn
- d. Letter of Interest from Sandy Buck

Mr. Griffin suggests going by the result of the vote back in March.

Mr. Lally agrees with Mr. Griffin and states that Mrs. Francis Quinn was the third winner.

Mr. Griffin MOTIONED to appoint Frances Quinn to the Trustees of the Trust Fund. Mr. Nichols SECONDED.

Town of Hampton  
Board of Selectmen  
July 28, 2008 Minutes

VOTE: UNANIMOUS FOR

VII. Consent Agenda

1. Parade License for the "Joseph T. McGuirk Memorial Bag Pipe Band Parade
2. Hannaford "Close to Home Event" request from A & G Brand Promotion
3. Acceptance of the funds for the "Pandemic Planning Guidelines" Hampton Fire Department
4. Cemetery Deeds (2) at the Hampton Cemetery

Mr. Bateman MOTIONED to move the consent agenda. Mr. Griffin SECONDED.

VOTE: UNANIMOUS FOR

VIII. Closing Comments

Mr. Nichols commented that he has made a spread sheet of all the submitted information on the Fire Station.

Mr. Bateman noted the resignation of Michael Verrocchi from the HPD who is now going to the Salem Police Department. Mr. Bateman commended Mike on his great service to the town of Hampton.

Chairman Lally allowed Vic and Jack Lessard to speak on the Fire Station and the need for a new court house as well. It bothers Vic that the people who spoke tonight about the Fire Station told the Board how to do their jobs and cut them down. It is also terrible that some people act as if other people are not hurting for money because they are.

Jack Lessard explained that he has been on every board in this town and he works at the Salvation Army and he does not have enough for the people who come in. It is outrageous to say that the public is not hurting for money. He also comments that the Board is doing a great job.

Mr. Workman MOTIONED to adjourn. Mr. Bateman SECONDED.

VOTE: UNANIMOUS FOR

Meeting adjourned at 09:06PM

---

Chairman